RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO THE WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to the Women Airforce Service Pilots.

As Chair of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Personnel and Co-Chair of the Women's Caucus Task Force on Women in the Military and Veterans, I am privileged to honor these women who, almost 70 years ago, became pioneers for women's equality in the Armed Forces.

And now, on March 10, 2010, we will honor their legacy as the first female aviators in American military history with the award of the Congressional Gold Medal.

The Women Airforce Service Pilots are referred to as the WASPs.

Unlike many acronyms used in the military, this is an apt name.

Like wasps, their work demanded a unique combination of feistiness and strength, underlined by loyalty to their fellow WASPs and their country.

I am astounded by their tenacity and their bravery.

And yet, despite that dedication, these women have encountered difficulties in being recognized for their service.

This ceremony will be an illustrative example of our indebtedness to their service, and I hope all of my colleagues will join me in thanking the WASPs.

This group of unsung heroines demonstrates the courage of servicewomen in the past, the integrity with which women serve today, and the enthusiasm of the young women who dream of serving this great nation in the future.

I am therefore honored to ask for authorization for the use of Emancipation Hall for the Congressional Gold Medal ceremony.

TRIBUTE TO DIANE BERRY CAVES

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, our nation lost an extraordinary public servant on January 12, 2010, when a catastrophic earthquake devastated the island nation of Haiti. Diane Berry Caves died tragically in Port-Au-Prince helping others in the impoverished country through her work at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Her life and her dedication to public service are an example and high standard for us all.

This remarkable young woman accomplished more in her 31 years than many people contribute in a lifetime. A devoted wife, daughter and sister, Diane dedicated her life to helping those less fortunate. Her profes-

sionalism and commitment to improving the world around her was recognized twice with outstanding service awards. In 2008, Diane was awarded the Public Administration Achievement Award from the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, one of the country's best policy schools. Last year, Diane was chosen from 6,000 other Federal workers and honored as the Atlanta Federal Executive Board Employee of the Year.

Diane grew up in the heart of my congressional district and graduated from Oak Ridge High School, where teachers remember her as an outstanding student and her classmates described her as adventurous. In addition to her work at the CDC and graduate studies at Georgia State University, Diane furthered her thirst for knowledge through book clubs and even found time to hike both the Andes Mountains and European Alps. There is no doubt, Diane's work ethic and zest for life left a lasting impression and inspired those around her.

The void she leaves in public health, outreach and volunteerism will be felt far beyond the CDC in Atlanta and her hometown of Oak Ridge, Tennessee. May Diane's family be comforted by her memory and may her extraordinary legacy serve as an example to others.

LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CRED-IT EXCHANGE EXPANSION AND JOB CREATION ACT OF 2010

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Exchange Expansion and Job Creation Act of 2010," legislation combating the housing and unemployment crises.

The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit is the nation's largest and most successful affordable rental housing production program. It has financed more than two million homes since 1987 and about 120,000 annually in recent years. This program provides tax credits to developers who agree to build or rehabilitate affordable housing. It includes both "9 percent" credits, which state housing finance agencies can allocate in amounts up to a state-level ceiling, and "4 percent" credits, which are available to all developers who receive allocations of tax-exempt bonds to build rental housing.

The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) of 2009 contained a provision that enabled the temporary exchange of unusable low-income housing credits. This exchange has enabled more than 600 affordable housing developments to proceed around the country, providing affordable homes to more than 30,000 low-income families and creating more than 35,000 jobs. The ARRA provision allowed investors to exchange low-income housing credits for grants at 85 percent of the value of the credits at virtually no cost to the federal government. Unfortunately, this provision only applied to 9 percent housing credits.

My legislation would expand this temporary credit exchange opportunity to include 4 percent credits. In 2007, prior to the financial markets crisis, states partnered with private

developers using 4 percent housing credits to create nearly 70,000 rental homes affordable to low-income working Americans and 85,000 housing-related jobs. In 2008 and 2009, the number of affordable homes and jobs produced by the 4 percent credit program fell by nearly 50 percent as capital available for investment disappeared.

I am introducing this bill because our country cannot afford to let this valuable 4 percent tax credit program fall into disuse due to the economy's downturn at a time when our country is in desperate need of more jobs and more affordable places for low-income families to live. Providing a safe and stable home gives families the critical foundation to find employment, get an education, and play an active role in their communities. Passage of this bill will allow cost effective investments leading to both more jobs and more housing for low-income working Americans and benefit our communities for years to come.

I hope that you will join me in supporting this legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN M. HITCHCOCK

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday. February 24, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John M. Hitchcock, who will be retiring as Executive Director of Hillsides Home for Children in March 2010.

John M. Hitchcock was born in New York, NY on April 23, 1940. He received his BA in Math and Chemistry from the University of Michigan in 1963 and his MA in Social Work from Wayne State University in 1965. John and his wife, Ida, have been married for over 40 years and reside in Pasadena. The Hitchcocks have two sons, David and Bob, and one granddaughter, Kate.

In 1971, John joined Hillsides Home for Children as Assistant Director and then became Executive Director and President of Hillsides Education Center in 1981. Since then, John has been responsible for the overall operation of Hillsides, which encompasses the management of the 17-acre campus, the operation of three local group homes, and planning, directing and coordinating Hillsides' activities.

Under Mr. Hitchcock's leadership, Hillsides has become an exemplary residential treatment program for children. The Hillsides Education Center continues to be an invaluable resource for the community, and the scope of programs and services provided by Hillsides has expanded to serve not only abused, abandoned and neglected children but also children and families in crisis living in Los Angeles County. John helped provide residential care, community-based support, special education and transitional assistance to emancipating foster youth, and in 2006, opened a large apartment complex, which serves as a transitional living facility for 20 emancipated foster youth.

Mr. Hitchcock has served on many boards and commissions including Planned Parenthood of Pasadena, Camp Wrightwood, Coalition for a Non-Violent City, Gooden Center, and the Association of Community Human